



BELLEVILLE - AREA INDEPENDENT

Vol. 25.16 Thursday, April 18, 2019

Serving the Communities of Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren

FREE

Mayor LeRoy Burcroff responds to report of city council meeting

To Ms. Rosemary Oztman:

In the April 4, 2019 edition of the *Belleville-Area Independent* you included a headline on your front page that stated "City of Romulus accused of stealing court money to cover its payroll." Had you taken the time to reach out to myself or my administration, and checked the facts, prior to writing such a harmful, defamatory article, you would have



Mayor Burcroff realized that the statements and accusations regrettably made by uninformed employees of the 34th District Court were made due to opposition to a potential cost share beginning July 1, 2019 for healthcare for all employees of the City, consistent with State Public Act 152, a practice followed by a majority of our neighboring communities and similarly in the public sector across the region.

Over the years, the City of Romulus, business community and our residents have had a great collaborative relationship with our Belleville community partners. The City, businesses and residents support many of your local businesses, including many of those who advertise in your paper.

How unfortunate that you chose to lead with an inaccurate headline, without verification of facts. There are a lot of great things going on in Romulus, many in collaboration with the City of Belleville. Including the upcoming 6th-annual Mayors' Ball hosted by myself and Mayor Conley again this year in the City of Belleville. This annual event raises funds donated entirely to the Romulus and Belleville Donahey Boys and Girls Clubs, a much needed resource in both of our communities. That would have been a great story to run about our community and

our Belleville neighbors.

You indicated in an article in the April 11, 2019 edition of the *Belleville-Area Independent* that you planned to view the Romulus City Council meeting of April 8, 2019. I hope that you are true to your word, as I presented facts to our City Council and viewing audience under my April 8, 2019 report to City Council. Should you view the meeting, you will hear the facts presented by City Attorney Steven Hitchcock and myself. Factual data about the financial relationship between the City of Romulus and the 34th District Court. If you have not yet viewed the meeting, I implore you to review the meeting on YouTube: <https://youtu.be/y800pTf51FE?t=794>.

Let me be clear -- the City of Romulus has conducted all financial transactions in accordance with the 1998 agreement between the City of Romulus, Township of Sumpter, Township of Van Buren, Charter Township of Huron and the City of Belleville.

Further, the City of Romulus has received and accounted for funds from the 34th District Court in accordance with the July 27, 2016 MOU (memorandum of understanding) with the 34th District Court as well as the August 27, 2017 revised MOU with the 34th District Court drafted when it was determined that the 34th District Court project would be a newly constructed building on the municipal complex rather than a renovation of the current building. Both the 2016 and 2017 MOUs address the process for accounting of the funds and the terms were agreed upon by both the Court and the City.

As stated in my press release of April 9, 2019, in 2018 auditing firm Plante Moran gave Romulus the **highest, unqualified audit opinion**. To publicly state otherwise, as you chose to do without information is dangerous and demeaning to the City of

(continued on page 10)



Independent photo by Rosemary K. Oztman

Sumpter Township Parks and Recreation Commission invited the Easter Bunny to its Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday at Graham Park. There were many children who took part in the hunts, visited the Bunny and had their pictures taken – and took home lots of candy. This Saturday, the Belleville Central Business Community is hosting candy hunts and a visit with Flop E Bunny beginning at noon at Victory Park in Belleville.

Fallen Tiger wall in front of Belleville High School almost completed

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

A memorial wall to hold the names of students who died during their school years in the Van Buren Public Schools is almost completed and the district is accepting applications for the Fallen Tiger Commemorative Wall.

At Monday's regular meeting of the board of education, School Supt. Pete Kudlak explained that the wall is being put up in the northeast corner of the property at Belleville High School and will carry 4"x6" plaques with the names of the deceased students that are nominated. However they died, if they are Van Buren students in any grade, they will qualify, he said. There will be no charge to the families for the plaques.

There also will be two orange and black benches put up next to the wall, paid for by

Waste Management and made from plastic bottle caps collected by student Marina Gerick in her Benches for Belleville project.

Supt. Kudlak said memorials serve an important function in the grieving and healing process. They recognize and honor the deceased, the survivors, and the community members who supported them.

He said it all started when he was approached by parent Tony Spitznagel and his daughter Faith who wanted to honor Savion Robinson, who died in a fire in December 2015 after helping family members escape the blaze. Savion would have been graduating from BHS this year and they wanted a memorial up before graduation. Other schools have such memorials for students.

(continued on page 17)

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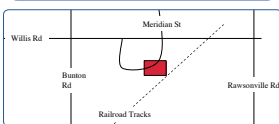
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SECOND FRONT PAGE



At its regular meeting on April 9, the Sumpter Township Board of Trustees conducted business at its newly installed board table, which has granite inlays in the surface. From left are Trustees Don Swinson and Tim Rush, Clerk Esther Hurst, Supervisor John Morgan, Treasurer Ken Bednark, township attorney Rob Young, and Trustees Don LaPorte and Matthew Oddy. There is an empty chair at the left that usually is used by Deputy Clerk Dawn Hadyniak to take minutes, but Clerk Hurst said her deputy preferred to sit in the back, against the wall.

Sumpter Twp. won't pay before getting answers on audio/video system

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

The Sumpter Township Board of Trustees voted unanimously at its regular meeting April 9 to have the vendor for its new audio/visual system, Elon, come talk about all the problems before they pay him.

Discussion on the system started with former Treasurer Peggy Morgan's comments at the end of the work/study session.

"Two weeks ago the board meeting was not live or televised," said Morgan. "With this high-tech, quality system we have, why isn't it being shown?"

Trustee Tim Rush, who took over responsibility for the system after it started having problems, said he was told the next day that the meeting wasn't shown.

"It was a glitch," Trustee Rush said. "Stuff happens."

"The last board meeting wasn't shown," Morgan said, adding she was told she couldn't get a DVD of the meeting, but Police Chief Eric Luke could download the meeting from the surveillance tape.

"The video recorder is not compatible with the system," Rush said.

"And, tonight we have no sound," she said of the sound system in the board room. Rush said that was because the amplifier

blew up. It's no good, he said. He said the meeting, however, is being recorded with sound, but is not being cablecast live. He said the meeting is being played four times a day for four weeks.

"Why didn't you ask these questions when you voted for this system?" Rush asked of Morgan.

Morgan replied that the system was first supposed to be \$30,000 and then it came back as \$62,000.

"If I was sitting on this board, I'd be pissed," she said. "He never came to give the board an explanation.

"How pathetically sad," Morgan said.

Trustee Matthew Oddy said the board asked them to come before the board and answer questions before the township paid, or to write a letter.

"I'm just one board member, but that's what I requested," Trustee Oddy said.

"At a bare minimum that's what he should do," Trustee Don LaPorte said.

"One of you should make a motion that he should not be paid," Morgan said.

"As committee chairman, until the committee signs off on it, there's not going to be any check written," Rush said.

"Will you make a motion?" Morgan asked and Rush replied, "No problem."

Oddy also said he had no problem with

that and Trustee LaPorte added, "No problem."

Treasurer Ken Bednark said maybe the board should get some concessions on this.

Oddy said he would make the motion during the meeting to have the vendor come in to explain before getting a check.

Morgan also commented on Deputy Clerk Dawn Hadyniak's seat back in the corner, behind the board and against the wall. She said when Hadyniak was gone and Deputy Supervisor Karen Armatis took minutes at the budget hearing, Armatis sat up front at the board table.

"Now Dawn is back there and I can hardly see her," Morgan said. "It looks like she's sitting in the naughty chair."

Clerk Esther Hurst said Deputy Hadyniak chose to sit there and it's easier for Armatis to sit at the board table to get the motions.

At the regular meeting, the board:

- Heard Armatis introduce Jeff Lomanic, Jr., his father Jeff, Sr., two helpers and a daughter. Armatis said they made the new board table which has been installed. Supervisor John Morgan said, "We think you did a great job." Trustee Rush said there is a lot of room for his legs now. Lomanic, Jr. thanked his father for doing the design. "He helped a lot," Lomanic, Jr. said, and the audience applauded;

- Heard Ken Kunka, head of the water and sewer department, give a report on how the water bills are determined and what happens when residents become delinquent. Supervisor Morgan said the auditors tell the township to keep the delinquency rate down. When Trustee Oddy asked what other options besides payment plans do the township residents have to avoid shutoffs, Kunka said they don't have any listed in their office now. Oddy said he would like to see a list of options for people who are facing shutoffs, such as other programs to help. Kunka said there have been about 10 shutoffs in the last six months. "Can I ask about his report?" asked Peggy Morgan, and Supervisor Morgan said, "No. We can't do that";

- Heard Public Safety Director/Police Chief Eric Luke give his monthly report and advised residents to keep their houses and garages locked since when the weather breaks there is an uptick in property crime. When asked about numbers to call for suicide prevention, Chief Luke said he's had it posted on the website for five weeks. He said in the last three to four weeks, Sumpter has had two to three suicides. He said he has asked people to share the help lines on social media. "Maybe someone

(continued on page 17)

OPINIONS

Editorial

VB T Board OKs E. Huron River Dr. route for Iron Belle

It wasn't easy, but after a very long discussion on Monday and more discussion on Tuesday, the Van Buren Township Board of Trustees approved the controversial eastern route of the Iron Belle Trail through the township.

It will be going down E. Huron River Drive as first suggested last year, although a handful of residents along that route have objected. That link goes from the City of Belleville to the Metropark.

An option to take the bicycle/pedestrian trail down Martinsville Road to Savage to the ITC power lines and south to Bemis and then to the Metropark was vehemently opposed by residents of Country Pond subdivision at Monday's meeting. Twenty people spoke against that route, although it hadn't been recommended because of the cost.

The Iron Belle Trail runs from Belle Isle in Detroit to Ironwood in the Upper Peninsula and the VBT/Belleville segment was a missing link in the route.

At Monday's work/study meeting, Phillip Miller of VBT, with property in the City of Belleville, said it is an honor to the township to have the trail go through and it should be promoted.

After hours and hours of discussion, the route was approved and now grant money can be utilized for the project. If those grants can be finalized and route obstacles overcome by engineers, it's expected to take six or seven years to build through the township. Welcome, Iron Belle.

EXTRA THINGS I KNOW

...By Rosemary K. Otzman

MLive reports that a bill that passed in the last, 21-hour lame duck session of the Michigan Legislature in December contained some mistakes in locations for state funding and have to be done over.

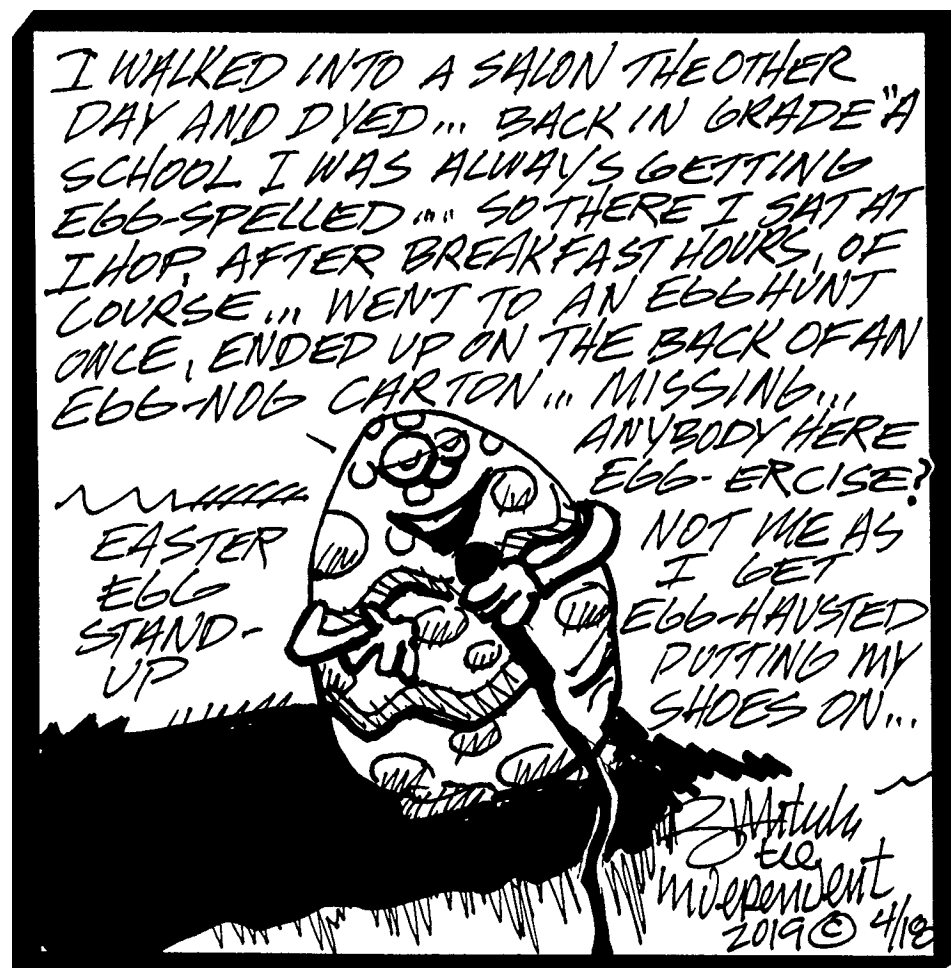
For example, there was \$2.5 million for a *low-orbit launch site* that needs to be redone because the population threshold was written for Van Buren Township, when the project actually speaks of Macomb County and northern Michigan sites. Other mistakes include misidentifying the cities or counties getting the grants.

A low-orbit launch site in VBT? That would be interesting.

We thought we might not get the police dispatch logs from Van Buren Township on time Monday because the police IT person there, Ken Dandy, might be taking part in the Boston Marathon, as he has done before. But the logs came on time and Ken explained: "Had to take this year off, hoping to do New York later this year."

On Monday morning around 10, Van Buren Township dispatched two fire engines to a fire alarm at Haggerty School on Haggerty Road. Shortly after they started the run, the dispatcher told them the run was canceled because it turns out the school was just having a fire drill.

I've been thinking about how our family observed Good Friday and Saturday before Easter when I was growing up in Van Buren Township. We were taught to be prayerful between noon and 3 p.m. on Friday, quiet and thoughtful on Saturday as Jesus lay in the tomb, and then joyful on Sunday



after observing the resurrection. After we came back from church, we celebrated by hunting for eggs.

The world has been turned around since then and groups are having egg hunts and celebrating before Easter. How can that be?

In Romulus, however, they seem to have gotten it right. On Good Friday they hold a Community Walk and Worship which includes the community walking about a mile, following a man carrying a cross. Members of the community dress up as people in the Bible story, like Mother Mary, Mary Magdelin, Pontius Pilate, and others. Then, at the end of the walk they have a worship service.

It starts about 10 a.m. on Good Friday at Five Points Church, 37300 Goddard Rd., where there are refreshments and places to park and, at 10:30 a.m. shuttle rides to the beginning of the walk at Romulus Historical Park, 11120 Hunt St.

Participants walk back as a group to Five Points for the service. It just seems right to me and I applaud the Romulus Christian Ministerial Alliance for putting it on. If you'd like information on this, call Rev. Arthur Willis at (734) 728-1390.

I got to wondering about the local retail fraud cases I've heard at 34th District Court and how many have been from Walmart. I've never heard a case from Menards, which now is next door to Walmart, and wondered why that was.

Then, I remembered that Menards has a walk-through turnstile at the entryway and you can only go forward in it. You have to go past a check-out station to leave the store. How smart is that?

I'm sure some people figure out ways to steal that work, but Menards isn't making it easy for them.

Last week in the story of the Iron Belle Trail, I called the Upper Peninsula terminus of the trail "Iron Mountain." That's wrong. I was corrected by someone who grew up in the UP. It should be Ironwood. He was sure. I checked and he was right. The trail runs from Belle Isle in Detroit to Ironwood in the UP. You can't walk or bike across the Mackinac Bridge, but for a nominal fee they will take your bike over on a truck and give you a ride over. Wonder who will be the first to do the whole trail.

Belleville residents will be happy to hear that Van Buren Township's new contract with Gonczy's Property Maintenance for grass cutting and related services includes clearing the brush and debris on both the Denton Road and Belleville Road bridges. Last year the city got together with the township to get the done as a separate project.



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BELLEVILLE-AREA INDEPENDENT

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-- Albert Einstein

"Success seems to be largely a matter of hanging on after others have let go."
-- William Feather



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Letters

Inflammatory headline and uninformed judges

To the editor:

This letter is a response to the story of the City of Romulus stealing funds from other cities via 34th District Court. I understand the reason of the story and that the *Independent* had their information from the judges.

But the *Independent* made no attempt to contact Romulus city officials to hear the other side of the story. Not positive you have to, but I feel it is the best thing to do.

But the most incredible thing was that a judge that is supposed to be a finder of fact, the person who reviews all the evidence, to listen to both sides of the story, failed to do that.

They stated things that were untrue and did that blatantly without any regard to the facts and without any investigation. How can a person in that position, who is upholding the law and presiding over the citizens make such an error?

It scares me to think what is going on with their cases they see everyday in the courthouse. Maybe it's time for a judicial review from the State of Michigan to see if they are handling the public that comes before them the same way.

I know for a fact, after reviewing all the evidence I have seen, I will NOT be voting for them the next time they are on the ballot.

Jeff Kotlarek
Romulus

Editor's Note: First of all, I received no information from any judge for the story, other than the spellings of the names of speakers who identified themselves as court employees. I contacted the court for that information when I was writing the story. I was alerted to what happened at the March 25 Romulus City Council meeting by a Romulus resident and so I watched it on YouTube. My whole story is about what happened at that meeting, especially since it affects Belleville, Van Buren, and Sumpter. The only judge in my April 4 story is Judge Green and she made no charges. At the meeting, she said although there is talk on the street that the city is in financial trouble because it is building the courthouse, that is not true and explained how the court raises the money to take care of itself and share with the municipalities

HE IS RISEN -
RISEN INDEED
HAPPY EASTER

involved. Then court employees added their comments and charges. The mayor pretty-much called the employees liars, but said he would investigate and report back. He was not at the April 1 meeting and so it was at the April 8 meeting that he made comments.

'Sound of Music' was a great success

To the editor:

Went to see "Sound of Music" Saturday afternoon. I can't stay awake late enough to go to the night performance. I just want to say thanks to these great high school performers, their parents who give them so much support, teachers and staff who made the play such a success.

Mickey Widener
Van Buren Township

Thanks to those who fought fire in VB Estates

To the editor:

I would like to thank all of Van Buren Fire Department, Sumpter Fire, and Belleville Fire for what they did to help my husband and I early Sunday morning. We are very grateful.

My sincere gratitude goes out to these men and women who risk their lives every day for people like myself.

Sarah Stewart
Van Buren Township

A kind deed speaks louder than any words

To the editor and readers:

This is an important remembrance that we celebrate each year. It is a solemn and reflective time. Children look for the Easter Bunny who hides goodies in many places. It is also a time to buy a new outfit for the festivities that are held for Easter.

Most importantly, we remember how Christ sacrificed for us to have an opportunity to meet with HIM in a Holy Place. It is also a time to do something to help those who are in need of food, clothing, and words of kindness.

So, I would like to leave you with these words: A kind deed speaks louder than any words. Look around you and beautify where you live and play. Let's remember we only have a short time here on earth, so let's not destroy it with garbage and trash strewn on our highways and walk ways.

Be Kind, Safe and Enjoy Easter 2019.

Marian Caldwell
Ypsilanti Township/Belleville

"Being powerful is like being a lady. If you have to tell people you ARE, you AREN'T."

-- Margaret Thatcher
British Prime Minister, 1925-2013

More Letters

Scott Jones will make Belleville proud again

To the editor:

Thank you for your April 4 issue wherein you reported on "Belleville's front door changes hands." I am very excited to hear that Scott Jones has purchased the blighted 1500 block of Main Street plus the house behind the commercial buildings on North Liberty Street.

A modern-day success story would surely showcase the Jones' family reputation as good neighbors. Belleville has ample reason to be proud of the Jones family and their wonderful, generous contribution to the welfare of many local employees while owners of the L&W Engineering.

An employer's reputation and relationship with its employees always reveals a great deal about the employer himself, so I recently inquired of one of L&W's former employees and without hesitation, she eagerly described to me her tenure while at L&W. While talking about Scott Jones, in particular, she used words such as: "Very friendly," "Truly concerned about his employees and their jobs," "Listens when people are talking to him," "Was not afraid of taking ideas," "Easy to talk to," "Stay focused on what needed to be done," "The best way to get it done, the best way for all," etc., etc.

I am confident the new owner at Belleville's front door – Scott Jones – will be the key motivator in making Belleville proud again. Go, Scott!

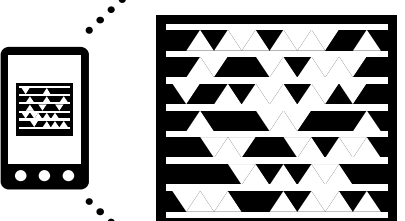
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April 25 -- Shelly Brown Chudzinski
April 27 -- Barb Otto
April 28 -- JoAnn Kotlarczyk
April 30 – Peggy Zywicki, Dan Hiveley

Do you have a birthday in April? Does anyone you know have a birthday soon? Call the *Independent* at 699-9020 and let us know. We'll list it in this column ASAP following your call. There is no charge.



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'Community Sings with Matt Watroba' returns April 24 at library

Community Sings with Matt Watroba returns to the Belleville-Area District Library at 7 p.m., Wednesday, April 24.

Join your friends and neighbors for a community sing-along hosted by WDET's Matt Watroba. Community sings are an opportunity for all willing singers to

experience the power of song and musical participation.

Don't worry if you don't consider yourself a "singer," said Adult Services Librarian Amy Greschaw. "Community singing is not performing. All skill levels are welcome."

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Obituaries



Robert Richard Ostrowski

ROBERT RICHARD OSTROWSKI
 August 30, 1937 – April 9, 2019
 Age 81, a lifelong Belleville area resident, died peacefully at his residence with his family by his side on Tuesday, April 9, 2019.
 Robert is the beloved husband of Dena Raye for fifty-eight wonderful years; loving father of Lori (Greg) Nowak of Adrian, Robert (Catherine) Ostrowski of Canton, Sandra Overmyer of Belleville, Steven (Lynn) Ostrowski of New Boston and Sherry (Daniel) Yeager of Southgate. Mr. Ostrowski is also survived by his brother, David (Diane) Ostrowski of Ypsilanti, fifteen grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren.
 A graduate of Lincoln High School of Ypsilanti (Class of 1955), Robert enjoyed hunting, fishing and gardening. Mostly, being the “Babysitter on standby” for his grandchildren was his greatest joy. He truly loved his family.
 A Funeral Mass was celebrated at 10 AM, Friday, April 12, 2019 at St. Anthony’s Church, 409 W. Columbia, Belleville. The Ostrowski family greeted guests from 9 AM at the church. Interment followed at Michigan Memorial Park of Flat Rock.
 Visitation was held Thursday from 2 - 8 PM at the David C. Brown Funeral Home of Belleville. (734) 697-4500. A scripture service was held at 7 PM Thursday.
 In lieu of flowers, memorial tributes may be directed to Compassionate Hospice or Golden Home Health Care. www.davidcbrownfh.com



Joseph W. Weick

JOSEPH W. WEICK
 May 24, 1936 – April 6, 2019
 Joseph W. Weick, age 82, of New Boston passed away April 6, 2019. He has joined the love of his life and wife of 56 years, Helene. Beloved father of Kimberly (Joel) Newton, Shelly (Michael) Signorelli, Joseph (Lori) Weick, and Jesse (Denise) Weick. Dearest grandfather and great-grandfather of many. He was preceded in death by his wife Helene Weick, daughter Pamela Swauger, and grandson Jayson Newton. He will be greatly missed by those he left behind.

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bellevilleareaindependent.com

JOHN CHANDLER
 February 4, 1959 – March 31, 2019
 Mr. John Chandler of Van Buren Township passed away on March 31, 2019 at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital. He was born February 4, 1959 in Ypsilanti, Michigan a son of Richard and Dorothy Chandler.
 John was a big fan of Harley Davidson motorcycles, basketball and classic car shows. John was a huge Michigan sports fan. John’s greatest joy in life was spending time with his family. Prior to his retirement he had been employed by Sam’s Warehouse for 16 years. John is survived by the love of his life of 39 years, Linda Short. Loving father of Ginger Short, Ed Short, Sandy Darr, Ken Short, John Short, Jr., Amber (Rich) Knowlton, Kristin (Mike) Short-Taylor and Chelsea Short. Adored grandfather of Seth Short, Isaac Short, Tori Short, Hannah Long, Mikayla Taylor, twins Devin & Zander Taylor, Hayden Shipman, Austin Knowlton, Justin Knowlton, Jessie Knowlton and Sarah Butler. Also survived by 2 sisters, Ann (Sam) Griffith and Carol Clemmons.
 John is predeceased by his parents Richard and Dorothy Chandler, 1 sister Linda Chandler, and 2 brothers Roger Chandler and Jimmy Chandler. Visitation for Mr. Chandler was held on Friday, April 5 at the Higginson & Neal Funeral Home, 209 Main St., Belleville 734-697-9400 from 11:00 A.M. until the time of service at 1:00 P.M. Burial followed at Denton Cemetery in Belleville.
 Memorial contributions in John’s name are suggested to the wishes of the family and would be greatly appreciated.

Upcoming Meetings

- Monday, April 22 – Belleville Parks and Recreation Commission, 4 p.m. Also, VBT Water and Sewer Commission, 6:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, April 23 – Van Buren Township Downtown Development Authority, 5:30 p.m. Also, Sumpter Township workshop at 6 p.m. and regular meeting at 6:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, April 24 – Van Buren Township Planning Commission, 7:30 p.m.
- Monday, April 29 – Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education, 7 p.m., BHS Commons
- Monday, May 6 – Van Buren Township work/study meeting, 4 p.m. Also, Belleville City Council, 7:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, May 7 – Van Buren Township regular meeting, 7 p.m.
- Wednesday, May 8 – Van Buren Township Planning Commission, 7:30 p.m.
- Thursday, May 9 – Keystone Academy school board, 6 p.m., budget hearing and annual meeting. Also, Sumpter Township Planning Commission, 7 p.m., if needed. Also, Belleville Planning Commission, 7 p.m.

Twisted Rooster sets clean-up event for downtown Belleville

Twisted Rooster will hold a clean-up event in downtown Belleville beginning at noon, Saturday, April 27, at Horizon Park.
 Volunteers will meet at the park and spread out throughout the downtown. All ages are welcomed and encouraged to join in. Twisted Rooster General manager Natalie Bates will sign off on volunteer hour, if needed, and all volunteers will receive Twisted Bucks to use at the Twisted Rooster on Belleville Road whenever they choose.
 They will provide gloves and trash bags for volunteers to use.

School Supt. Kudlak presents his first State of the District address

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

Van Buren Public Schools Superintendent Pete Kudlak gave an hour-long State of the District address during Monday's regular school board meeting. It was his first since becoming superintendent.

The address was held in the Belleville High School Auditorium in hopes the address would draw a big crowd. About 60 were in attendance.

Supt. Kudlak used the large screen in the front of the auditorium to illustrate his comments on the history of education, what's going on now, and what the future may be in education. He told about the present status and scores in the district.

He spoke about many things, including the upcoming November ballot proposal that will ask taxpayers to continue to pay the 2.98 mills for the BHS construction bonds instead of having the tax reduced to 2.35 mills, which can be done now that the bonds have been refinanced.

He said if voters approve this "net zero increase bond," the district would gain more than \$25 million and would be able to build a new Early Childhood Center on the property recently purchased from St. Anthony Catholic Church. He noted they recently closed on the purchase of the 11 acres.

He said they need to have more students in preschool to begin their educations and could add a special education preschool and additional tuition programs for 3- and 4-year-olds. Also, infant and toddler rooms could be added.

At the end of his long presentation, Supt. Kudlak said, "I love to talk about this" and invited anyone interested in discussing any of his comments to contact him at pkudlak@vanburenschools.net or call him at 697-9123.

He also offered to address any groups who want to discuss education and the Van Buren Public Schools.

In other business at the two-hour-and-16-minute meeting, the board:

- Approved contracts for the Tyler Elementary School boiler replacement.

The contract for mechanical services went to Mechanical System Services, Corp. for \$229,207.86 and the contract for electrical services went to Allied Building Service for \$10,348, along with a contingency budget of \$60,444 for a total amount of \$300,000 from the sinking fund. They were the low bidders of six. The work will be done this summer by cutting through the roof as it was done last year at Savage Elementary;

- Approved a contract to replace the soffits at Tyler and Savage schools for a total cost of \$383,940. Low bidder was Allied Building Service Company of Detroit, Inc. for both the architectural renovation services and the electrical renovation service for the project in the amount of \$349,037 and a construction contingency of \$34,903 to be paid from sinking funds. DTS Contracting withdrew its bid of \$202,530 and Davenport was high bidder at \$490,642. This project had not been scheduled, but last fall a large section of the soffit at Savage was found on the ground and in investigating the cause they found deficiencies in other places. They decided to replace all fascia and soffits to alleviate future problems and safety concerns;

- Approved purchase of hot well equipment for McBride from Stafford-Smith for \$21,477.51, the lowest of three quotes, from the Food Service fund balance. Food Service Supervisor Karen Waller said all the equipment being replaced was purchased in the 1960s and cannot be repaired. She said four of the ten wells are not heating as required by the Health Dept. Also purchased were two new cash register stands and a stainless-steel condiment table;

- Approved the tentative union agreement with the Van Buren Education Association for about 300 teachers. The VBEA signed the contract March 21. The short-term agreement, good until the end of this calendar year, is the first increase in salaries since 2007. The representative of the VBEA said it's a fair agreement and "neither side is completely happy, which shows it is a good agreement."

(continued on page 19)



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Things to do in the Belleville area...

- **Saturday, April 20** – Red Cross Blood Drive at Trinity Episcopal Church, 11575 Belleville Rd., Van Buren Township, 9 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. Information at 1-800-733-2767. For appointment go to www.redcrossblood.org, sponsor code bellevilleloop.
- **Saturday, April 20** – Flop E Bunny will be at Victory Park at noon to pose for pictures with children while others take part in the annual candy hunt. Sponsored by the Belleville Central Business Community.

- Free.
- **Saturday, April 20** – Belleville Free Will Baptist Church, 750 E. Huron River Dr. is having a Free Community Egg Hunt at 10 a.m. Crafts, pictures with Easter Bunny, lots of candy, and lunch. Free.
- **Wednesday, April 24** – Southwestern Wayne (County) Democratic Club invites you to its annual Chili Cookoff from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Wayne County Fairgrounds. Special guest will be Congresswoman Debbie Dingell. Information: (313) 971-5027 or (734) 634-3569.
- **Wednesday, April 24** – Community Sing at the Belleville Area District Library at 7 p.m. with WDET's Matt Watroba. All skill levels invited. Community Singing

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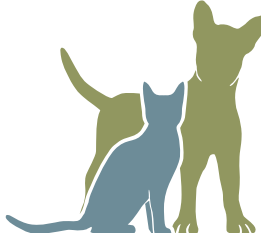
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- **Thursday, April 25, Friday, April 26, and Saturday, April 27** – Spring Indoor Flea Market at St. Paul Lutheran Church, 19109 Craig St., New Boston. It runs from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Thursday and Friday and from 9 a.m. to noon on Saturday. No clothes. Some collectibles, tools. (734) 753-9048
 - **Friday, April 26** – Penny Bingo at September Days Senior Center starts at 12:30 p.m. and runs until 2 p.m. Bring your pennies. Senior Center is at 46425 Tyler Rd., Van Buren Township.
 - **Friday, April 26** – The Induction Ceremony for the 2019 Belleville High School Distinguished Graduates will be at 7 p.m. at the BHS Auditorium. Before that a 5 p.m. dinner is set for all Distinguished Grades and others at the BHS Commons, followed by a tour of BHS, before the induction ceremony at 7 p.m.
 - **Sunday, April 28** – Women of the Moose are presenting a Spring Craft Fair, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Belleville Moose Lodge, 45476 Harris Rd., at the corner of Sumpter Road. Features crafters and vendors. Vendor show admission is \$1; kids under 10 are free.
 - **Sunday, April 28** – Free, live music at the September Days Senior Center, 2-5 p.m. Today it's Jay & Sax. For information, call Jimmy Baleja, (734) 223-4824 or Lynette Jordan (734) 699-8918.
 - **Monday, April 29** – State Rep. Joe Bellino of Monroe invites residents of Monroe and Wayne counties to join him for his monthly coffee hours. He will meet with residents from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. at Tim Hortons, 404 S. Monroe St. in Monroe and from 2 to 3 p.m. at Maybee Village Hall, 9051 Raisin St. in Maybee. Bellino represents Sumpter residents in Lansing. Info: (517) 373-1530.
 - **Friday, May 3** – Penny Bingo at September Days Senior Center starts at 12:30 p.m. and runs until 2 p.m. Bring your pennies. Senior Center is at 46425 Tyler Rd., Van Buren Township.



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Mayor Burcroff

(continued from page 1)

Romulus, our employees, the community we serve and our Belleville neighbors.

In your April 11, 2019 edition of the *Belleville Independent*, you included an article mentioning a recent Sumpter Township Board of Trustees' meeting which included statements made in the letter received by Sumpter Township from the Judges of the 34th District Court dated March 27, 2019. By her own admission to our legal counsel following release of the letter, Judge Green has confirmed that the letter to the other four communities is incorrect. While I fully understand that the healthcare cost share of employees is a passionate subject for all involved, it was a decision not made in haste. Multiple meetings over the last two years were held with City staff, and additionally with the Chief Judge and Judge Oakley regarding the financial health of the City and proposed changes to employee healthcare. I requested to meet with Court employees personally and to include their employees with meetings I scheduled with City staff. Although the Judges were aware of the plan, I was not given opportunity to share the facts with their employees. I stand by my recent statements that the comments of the employees and judges at the March 25, 2019 City Council meeting and the inaccurate letter that was sent to the four communities of the 34th District Court dated March 27, 2019 was in direct retaliation to the action taken by City Council regarding employee healthcare.

I am left to no other conclusion. As previously stated, the City of Romulus has conducted business in accordance with 1998 District Funding Unit agreement with the four other communities of the 34th District Court. At no time during the

drafting of the 2016 or 2017 MOUs with the 34th District Court for construction of the new court facility was there any question of how the funds were being recorded or requested by the 34th District Court. Finally, City Auditors have confirmed there is no question of any funds.

The City of Romulus remains proud to be the host community for the 34th District Court. With that responsibility given to our community in the 1998 community agreement and subsequent MOUs for construction of the Court, the City also retains the risk for the maintenance, financing and operation of the 34th District Court.

In the days ahead, we are working with the four communities to address the unfortunate verbal and written accusations by the employees and Judges of the 34th District Court with the four communities they serve. It is also my intention to continue to work with the 34th District Court as I and my administration always have -- in harmony. As stated in my April 9, 2019 press release, I am proud of the plans for the new building.

The recent actions of the 34th District Court, and falsehoods printed in your paper, have damaged the community and our employees. Romulus will continue to do its part to be a good community partner -- I ask you to do your part -- print the facts and publish a retraction of your April 4, 2019 article in the same place in the *Belleville-Area Independent* as the original article. I have attached the press release again for your reference as well as a full packet of information compiled by our City Attorney with copies of all the agreements as well as the letter sent out by the Court Judges. Thank you.

Sincerely,
LeRoy D. Burcroff, Mayor
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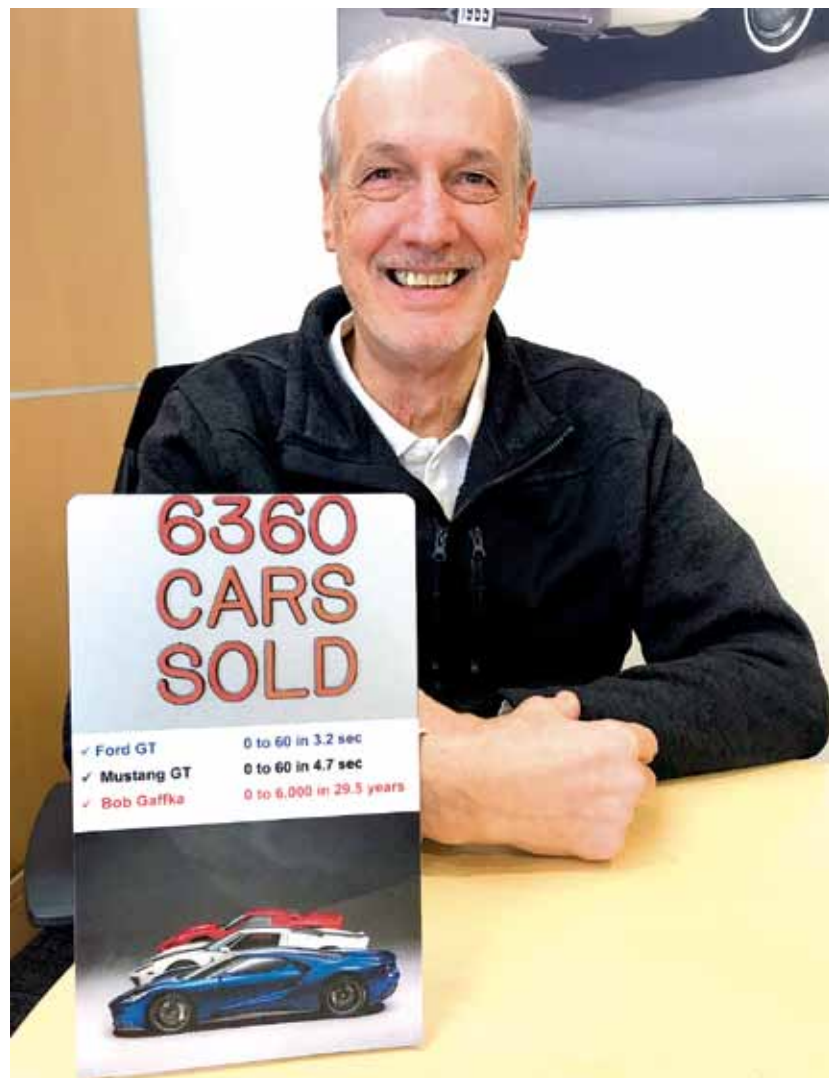


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Bob Gaffka has been selling vehicles at Atchinson Ford in Van Buren Township for 31.5 years and is celebrating the sale of his 6,360th vehicle. He marked the sale of his 6,000th vehicle two years ago. Before Gaffka came to Atchinson, he worked for 19 years at Chatham grocery store, which went out of business. That's when he began car sales at Atchinson.



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2019 BELLEVILLE STRAWBERRY QUEEN PAGEANT ENTRY FORM

PAGEANT will take place Friday, June 14, 2019 at 7:30 PM
Belleville High School Auditorium - W. Columbia, Belleville, Mich.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **Social Media usernames:** _____

Home Phone: _____ **Mobile Phone:** _____

School currently attending: _____ **Age:** _____ **Email:** _____

Employment: _____

Parents Name: _____

School Activities: _____

Career Ambition: _____

Hobbies: _____

Special Interests: _____

Community Involvement: _____

Your Creative and Performing Talent: _____

Rules: The first 12 applicants who complete an entry form, send a recent picture and mail to Joyce Rochowiak, 43250 Tyler Rd., Belleville, MI, 48111 by April 26th, 2019. You **must** be a resident of the Belleville Area, single, and between the ages of 16 and 20. Applicant **must** compete in an all dance performance by the group, individual talent, Evening Wear and answer questions presented by the moderator. Additional rules and requirements may be announced at the initial contestant meeting. Winners responsible for attending Strawberry Festival Parade and other Strawberry Festival events; including and not limited to additional parades, appearances and events throughout their reign.

Prizes: Queen will receive a \$1,000.00 Scholarship, Trophy & Gifts.
1st and 2nd runners up will each receive a \$500.00 Scholarship and gifts.

‘Connie’ Kalitta enshrined in Michigan Aviation Hall of Fame

Legendary drag racer and air freight magnate Conrad “Connie” Kalitta was enshrined in the Michigan Aviation Hall of Fame on Saturday, April 13.

Kalitta, of Belleville, received the high honors for his accomplishments and contributions to aviation in ceremonies at the Air Zoo, in Portage, MI. He is the sole owner of Kalitta Air based at historic Willow Run Airport.

The award was accepted by Corey Kalitta on behalf of his grandfather.

Yankee Air Museum wrote the application and it was submitted by six of its highly esteemed members who are also Hall-of-Famers, including Yankee Air Museum Board Chairman Ray Hunter.

“Connie’s background and credentials as a pilot, innovator and businessman presented a very strong nomination,” said Hunter. “One need only to look around the Kalitta Air facilities at Willow Run and Oscoda-Wurtsmith airports to know he is a titan of aviation.”

Connie Kalitta first learned to fly in the mid-1960s with Bud Dodge who ran a charter operation. By 1967, when he was 28 years of age, Connie had earned his multi-engine commercial rating and began his own highly specialized, on-demand, cargo flights on board his Cessna 310. His client, Ford Motor Company, needed to keep production lines flowing and traditional air cargo haulers were not fast enough. Kalitta’s operations could deliver needed material in a matter of hours.

Kalitta grew his aviation business from American International Airways, Inc. to Kitty Hawk and ultimately into Kalitta Air, LLC in 2000. He is a self-made man and one of the truly rare people in the annals of aviation who has been able to take the art and science of flying and have it transcend personal pleasure to stratospheric entrepreneurial eminence. He is the consummate team builder and for all of his achievements, he is incredibly modest.

Kalitta’s biography is a body of work celebrated in “first-ever” accomplishments, championships, records and corporate achievement. A man of few words,



Conrad “Connie” Kalitta

his story is best told by the countless loyal employees in the Kalitta family of businesses who have grown with him through decades of experience and hard work. His genius is his attention to detail, likening everything to a chain and always strengthening the weakest link. His leadership inspires this same focus and innovation in everyone on team Kalitta. In all things, he is a competitor and a winner.

Kalitta is a champion National Hot Rod Association top fuel racer and Lifetime Achievement Award recipient. He is also in the Michigan and national Motorsports Halls of Fame.

“We are incredibly fortunate to have an aviator of Connie’s prominence and competence in Michigan. We are proud to have him as our neighbor, indeed as a good friend, at historic Willow Run Airport,” Hunter concluded.

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Minding Your Business with Bob Mytych

Today's paper includes the 2019 Belleville Strawberry Queen Pageant entry form for the upcoming Strawberry Festival in June. Prizes include a \$1,000 scholarship, trophies and other gifts to the winner. First and second runner-up each receive a \$500 scholarship and gifts. The first 12 applicants who submit an entry form and meet the requirements become eligible. See their ad for the rules and the address to mail in the application

Keller's Farm Bakery at 23888 Haggerty between Judd and Wear roads is taking orders for Easter through Saturday, April 20. The bakery offers home-made pies, cakes, strudel, coffee cakes, breads, and dinner rolls. See their ad in today's paper and call (734) 753-4360. The bakery is open 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday.

Garden Fantasy Greenhouse on Tyler Road, just east of Morton Taylor Road, is open for another growing season with a nice selection of Easter lilies, tulips, daffodils, hyacinth, and pansies. They are open Monday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., but closed Easter Sunday. They are a few weeks away yet from selling their summer annuals, etc. Call (734) 699-0505.

Today's paper includes an insert from Tractor Supply, Inc. with locations in Saline, Ann Arbor, Monroe and many other places. To learn how you can have your insert or advertisement inserted into this newspaper, call me at (734) 699-9020.

The Belleville Central Business Community's Flop E Bunny Candy Hunt is this Saturday, April 20, at Victory Park. The candy hunts start at 12:15 p.m. with the toddlers to 3 year olds, 12:30 p.m. for 4-5 year olds, 12:45 p.m. for 6-7 year olds, and 1 p.m. for 8-10 year olds. Free photos with Flop E Bunny are scheduled from noon until 2 p.m., along with visits from the Belleville Fire Department, Culver's Scoopie, Kona Ice Truck, and CAF-5 selling hot dogs and drinks. The Belleville Area Kiwanis will conduct a used-book sale. The candy hunts are free and open to the public.

Kwick Automotive Service at 541 E. Huron River Dr. in Belleville is offering an AC System Check for \$49.95, plus freon with its ad coupon in today's paper. Manager James Potter is offering a free brake inspection with a second ad coupon. While there, they will give you a good price on a set of new tires from Goodyear and Kelly. See their ad for details and call (734) 391-8218.

Honey Pest Control of Belleville is back advertising for another season. With more than 36 years of experience, owners John and Joan Honey are licensed, insured, and offer free estimates for residential and commercial customers and serve all of Southeastern Michigan. Get a quote today for controlling ants, bees, bed bugs, bats, mice, spiders and other pests. See their ad and call (734) 699-6889. Credit cards are accepted.

St. Paul Lutheran Church at 19109 Craig St. in New Boston is getting ready for its annual indoor flea market coming up April 25-27, with items including tools, collectibles, and a whole lot more. Call (734) 753-9048.

Do you have a business item you would like to see in this column? There is no charge. Call Bob Mytych at (734) 699-9020 with your suggestion.

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INDEPENDENT CLASSIFIED ADS

AUCTION

PUBLIC AUCTION

NOTICE is hereby given that on April 27, 2019 at 12:00 p.m., Full House Self Storage at 7886 Belleville Rd., Belleville, MI 48111 is holding a public auction. Unit(s) may or may not include the following: household items, recreational items, appliances, furniture, misc.

C114, Latese C. Walls; T965, Dianne McClellan; K666, Teala Boone; Q905, Tasha Davis; K672, Scott Sternbergh; P765, Dak Haulage LLC; L525, Daryl Bueter; C113, Andrew J. Matiska; N810, 0715 & S962, Terry Booth; N819, Eugene Wooten; P776, Reigning Virgin Hair; 0706 & P758, Crit E. Smith; S955, Michael Browne.

Publish: April 11, 2019, April 18, 2019

INDOOR FLEA MARKET

APRIL 25, 26, 9am-3pm & 27, 9am-noon at St. Paul Lutheran Church, New Boston. Tools, collectibles & more.

04/25

GARAGE/YARD SALE

RUMMAGE SALE at Belleville Co-op Senior Apts. 575 Sumpter Rd. April 18, 19 & 20, 9am-5pm. Lots of good stuff!

04/18

POSTPONED UNTIL JUNE. Rummage sale. April 18, 19 & 20. 49935 Arkona.

04/18

FRIDAY & SATURDAY, APRIL 26 & 27, 8am-4pm at 18080 Savage Rd. (between Bemis/Harris). Collectibles, kids items, car parts, household items, clothes.

04/25

FOR SALE

USED TIRE SALE

Size	Installed
14 & 15's	\$40 ea.
16's	\$50 ea.
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14 & 15's	\$160
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04/25

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04/25

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04/25

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04/25

HARDWOOD FLOOR SANDER. Retails for \$2,900 selling for \$500. Set of Michelin tires, P24560R18, \$100. Generator, LLR4400 \$150. (734) 325-2648

04/25

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04/25

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05/02

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05/02

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05/02

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BELLEVILLE LAKE, 1,723 sq.ft., 3-bedrooms, 2-full baths, 4-Anderson 8' doorwalls w/full view of lake. Ceramic tile in kitchen & dining rooms. Basement tiled & drywalled. 2-car garage w/12'x24' storage addition. \$320,000. (734) 697-8336

04/18

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04/25

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 — Arthur Hays Salzberger

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04/25

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04/25

2005 GRAND MARQUIS, \$1,000. (734) 262-1937 leave message.

05/02

Notice to Advertisers:

The Belleville-Area Independent will not be liable for failure to publish an ad as requested or for more than one incorrect insertion of an advertisement. In the event of any error or omission in printing or publication of an advertisement, you must notify us within five days of publication or on the date of insertion, if an ad is scheduled as part of a package, so there is time to correct subsequent publications. The Independent's liability shall be limited to an adjustment for the cost of the space occupied by the error with a maximum liability being cancellation of the cost of the first incorrect advertisement or republication of the corrected advertisement. Under no circumstances shall the Independent be liable for consequential damages of any kind.

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09/26

INDEPENDENT CLASSIFIED ADS

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FREE PICKUP OF UNWANTED appliances, lawn equipment, bicycles, & any type of scrap & farm metal. John (734) 644-4008 04/25

WANTED PIANO in good condition w/ bench. No major damage. Reasonably priced. Call between 9am & 7pm. (734) 697-9628. Leave Message. 04/25

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8 Yards	\$170⁶⁸	14 Yards	\$265⁰²
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734-341-3364

JOB POSTING

Sumpter Township is currently accepting applications for Full Time Clerk's Office Assistant. This position will be under the direction of the Township Clerk. Must have office experience, excellent customer service skills, attention to detail with high degree of accuracy.

Please submit application, resume and cover letter to Michelle Bellingham, Human Resource Coordinator, 23480 Sumpter Road, Belleville, MI 48111 no later than 4:00 PM on Friday April 26, 2019. Application and full job description is available on our website Sumptertwp.com

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If you aren't going to an exotic location, just send us \$30 for postage to an address inside Michigan or \$35 out of state, and we'll provide mail delivery of the *Independent* so you won't miss a single, exciting issue.

Court Watching:**Four co-defendants bound over on charges of retail fraud**

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

On March 31, four suspects allegedly took \$3,226 worth of computers and computer-related products from Walmart.

Van Buren Township Police Lt. Charles Bazy said the suspects put the items in a shopping cart and pushed it out of the store without paying for the items.

VBT Officer Fred Sweet was leaving the drive-through at the McDonald's on Belleville Road and observed the four traveling south on Belleville Road without headlights. Officer Sweet stopped the vehicle and observed the computer equipment in the vehicle.

Officer Sweet conducted a field investigation and was able to determine the defendants had just stolen property from Walmart on Belleville Road. It was confirmed by Walmart that the defendants had just been in the store and had taken the items. The incident was captured on the in-store surveillance system, Lt. Bazy said.

The four were scheduled for their probable cause conferences on the charges at 34th District Court on April 10 and they all waived the upcoming preliminary exams and were bound over for trial.

Christopher George Broadnax, II

Christopher George Broadnax, II, age 20, was bound over to circuit court for an arraignment on the information on April 17. He is charged with retail fraud, 1st degree, and accessory after the fact to a felony on March 31 in VBT.

He waived his preliminary exam on April 10 before Magistrate Lisa Martin.

Broadnax is lodged in the Wayne County

Jail on a bond of \$10,000/10%. His court-appointed attorney is Jeahad Kadaf.

Co-defendant:**Enrique Jesus Broadnax**

Enrique Jesus Broadnax, 19, was bound over to circuit court for an arraignment on the information on April 17. He is charged with retail fraud, first degree, in VBT on March 31. He is lodged in the Wayne County Jail on bond of \$10,000/10%. On April 10 he waived his preliminary exam and Magistrate Martin bound him over. His court-appointed attorney is Sharon Jones.

Co-defendant:**Terrance Leon Ford**

Terrance Leon Ford, 21, was bound over to circuit court for an arraignment on the information on April 17. He is charged with retail fraud – first degree on March 31 in VBT. He is lodged in the Wayne County Jail on bond of \$10,000/10%. On April 10 he waived his preliminary exam and Magistrate Martin bound him over. His court-appointed attorney is Kurtis Davenport.

Co-defendant:**Andrew Alex Marsh**

Andrew Alex Marsh, 20, waived his preliminary exam on a charge of retail fraud, first degree, that occurred on March 31 in VBT. Magistrate Martin bound him over to circuit court for an April 17 arraignment on the information.

He is free after posting bond of \$10,000/10%. His court-appointed attorney is Brian S. Brown.

Craig Edward Swisher

Craig Edward Swisher, 58, of Sumpter Township was waiting for his bench trial

before 34th District Court Judge Tina Brooks Green on April 10, when his court-appointed attorney Jeff Bowdich came up with a plea deal.

Swisher agreed to plea guilty to an added count of disorderly conduct (jostling) and the misdemeanor charges of interfering with a police investigation and domestic violence were dropped. The incident

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE:

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention, to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination call HUD toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

**Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice****POLICE VEHICLE AUCTION**

On April 24th, 2019, the Van Buren Township Police Department will conduct a public auction of impounded and abandoned vehicles. The auction will begin at 10:30am, at **J&T Towing** and Storage, 287 Industrial Dr. Belleville MI, County of Wayne, where the following will be offered for sale to the highest bidder.

2000	TOYOTA	4D	JT3HN86R1Y0282352	19-2741
2006	DODGE	4D	1B3EL46XX6N104646	19-5248
2002	CADILLAC	4D	1G6KD54Y42U100403	19-5249

At 11:30am, the auction will move to **Great Lakes Towing** and storage, 42350 Van Born Rd. Belleville MI, County of Wayne, where the following vehicles, will be offered for sale to the highest bidder.

2006	FORD	SW	1FMFU16526LA05047	19-2527
2003	CHEVROLET	SW	1GNDD13S532286911	19-3079
2000	FORD	4D	3FAFP66LXYM113043	19-4267
2007	FORD	4D	1FAHP34N67W233707	19-4625
2001	VOLKSWAGE	4D	3VWSB29M91M226666	19-5161
2007	PONTIAC	4D	2CKDL63F476067996	18-21234

All vehicles are sold in "as is condition." Bidding on all impounded vehicles will start at the amount due for towing and storage. Vehicles may be deleted from this list at any time prior to the start of the auction.

Leon Wright MMC, CMMC., Van Buren Township Clerk,
Published: April 18th, 2019

occurred in Sumpter Township on Dec. 22.

The victim, his neighbor at Rawsonville Woods mobile home park, was present in the courtroom and she was in agreement with the resolution of the charges. She told Judge Green she wanted to have contact with Swisher and so Judge Green lifted the previous no-contact order.

When the victim, her daughter and granddaughter entered the courtroom to await the bench trial, the little girl called out to Swisher as a friend.

Swisher was fined \$565, but was given no required classes or other sentence. He had been free after posting \$2,000/10% bond and most of the bond was credited toward his fine.



CITY OF BELLEVILLE
Regular City Council Meeting Minutes
Monday, April 1, 2019

A regular meeting of the Council for the City of Belleville was called to order by Mayor Conley at 7:30 p.m. at the Municipal Building, 6 Main Street, Belleville.

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & MOMENT OF SILENCE

2. ROLL CALL

Council Member Fielder	Present
Council Member Marcotte	Present
Council Member Smith	Absent
Mayor Pro Tem Loria	Present
Mayor Conley	Present

3. PRESENTATIONS AND CITIZEN COMMENTS

Presentations	None
Council follow up list	None
Citizen Comments	None

4. AGENDA APPROVAL

Motion by Loria, Second by Fielder to approve the agenda as presented.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Fielder, Second by Marcotte to approve the City Council meeting minutes from March 18, 2019 as presented.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None

7. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

None

8. GENERAL BUSINESS

None

9. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE & DEPARTMENTAL EXPENDITURES

Motion by Marcotte, Second by Loria to approve Resolution No. 19-026, for accounts payable and purchases over \$500.00 totaling \$137,345.38 as presented.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10. CITIZEN COMMENTS

Police Chief Hal Berriman wanted to be sure to give a public thank you to the Michigan Search and Rescue Team whose efforts helped find closure in less than 2 hours on the recent missing person case in Belleville.

11. EXECUTIVE SESSION

City Council recessed the regular meeting to go into a closed session pursuant to MCL 15.268(c) to discuss the status and strategy of pending union negotiations.

Motion by Fielder, Second by Loria to approve Resolution No. 19-027, recess regular meeting at 7:42 p.m. and enter into closed session.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Motion by Loria, Second by Fielder to return to open session at 8:11.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Loria, Second by Fielder to adjourn meeting at 8:12 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully submitted,
Sherri Scharf, City Clerk

Approved: April 15, 2019

Published: April 18, 2019

Public Notice

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT, WASHTENAW COUNTY, CIRCUIT COURT – FAMILY DIVISION
PUBLICATION OF NOTICE OF HEARING

FILE # 18-002185-NC

In the matter of Ezra Michael England

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS whose address(es) are unknown and whose interest in the matter may be barred or affected by the following: TAKE NOTICE: A hearing will be held on May 1, 2019 at 1:30 p.m. at 22nd Circuit Court – Family Division, 101 E. Huron St., Ann Arbor, MI 48107 before Judge P. Conlin, Bar No. P-56333, for the following purpose: Change the name of Ezra Michael England to Ezra Michael Bonnici.

Date: April 9, 2019

Petitioner: Brittany Bonnici, 9830 Julie Drive, Lot 225, Ypsilanti, MI 48197 (734) 796-6041

Publish: April 18, 2019

Fallen Tiger

(continued from page 1)

Kudlak said he reached out to James Williams and Dan Wright to see how the district could make this happen. Williams' department worked on the wall and Wright and Deb McWilliams put together a form to be filled out by the parents or guardians. The form is located under Parent Tab on

the district website. For more information, contact Wright at BHS, 697-9133.

Kudlak said they have two other students whose plaques will be added to the wall, as well.

**One Call Does It All . . .
. . . At the Independent
699-9020**

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice



CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN JOB VACANCY

Position Title: Superintendent of Public Services

Department: Public Services

Classification: Regular, Full-time

FLSA Status: Non-exempt **Union Affiliation:** Non-Union salary position.

Salary: \$60,910 based on experience and qualifications

Benefits Package: Health/Dental 90% Employer Paid

Blue Cross Blue Shield and Blue Care Network

Vision Employer Paid

Short/Long Term Insurance Employer Paid

Retirement 12% Employer Matched/100% Vested after first contribution

Life Insurance \$50,000

PTO

Education Tuition Assistant Plan

General Duty Statement:

Van Buren Charter Township is now accepting resumes for the Superintendent of Public Services

Position Summary

Under the supervision of the DPS Director, this employee is responsible for administrative and supervisory work overseeing the field activities and personnel of the Department of Public Services. **This individual will plan in the areas of safety and organize all functions of the Township facilities maintenance including but not limited to installation of utility related equipment, the parks, the Township Fleet, cemeteries and custodial operations.** The employee is expected to cooperatively participate in project and operational activities with the Director of DPS, the Township Engineer and other Township management, contractors or consultants. Significant emphasis is placed on maximizing the efficiency and effectiveness of all related duties. Although general direction is received from the Director, considerable independent judgment and initiative is a must.

- Supervises the cleaning, maintenance and repair work of township building and grounds including parks, cemeteries and burial activities. This includes documentation of work efforts into CITYWORKS database
- Supervises, directs, assigns and evaluates the daily activities of skilled and semi-skilled workers.
- Trains employees in work procedures standards and safety practices, interviews and recommends selection of job applicants, evaluates employee performance and prepares improvement plans for corrective and disciplinary actions as needed.
- Recommends new policies to improve efficiency.

Detailed information can be found on the Van Buren Township website.

www.vanburen-mi.org/about-the-community/help-wanted

Please submit a cover letter, resume and application to:

nsumpster@vanburen-mi.org.

The Charter Township of Van Buren is an equal opportunity employer

Publish: April 18, 2019; April 25, 2019

Sumpter Twp.

(continued from page 3)

will feel moved to call when they see the number," Luke said;

- Heard Fire Chief Januszyk report the previous evening there was a small brush fire that started when the flames got out of a burn pit. He asked residents not to burn. "You turn your back and it gets out of control," he said. When asked if they used their new Gator for the fire, Luke said the township doesn't have its trailer yet because there was a fire in Texas. They have made arrangements to use a DPW trailer until the new one comes in, he said;

- Heard Treasurer Ken Bednark announce that the township now has paperless water billing and forms to fill out are at the

treasurer's office. He said people can get their bill via email instead of a paper bill in the mail. He said he will see if they can post a form on the internet to fill out. He said it will expedite getting your bill and save a stamp. Treasurer Bednark also announced that they have contracted with a firm to install a night deposit window of bank quality. He said there will be a locked bin on the inside, so things dropped in the slot can no longer fall into the office on the floor behind a machine. He said he is looking into the details of taking partial tax payments and is shopping banks to get the best deal for the township. Also, once they get their bank, they will be looking at taking tax bills by credit card;

- Heard township attorney Rob Young

(continued on page 19)

Sumpter Township Public Notice

**Sumpter Township
Regular Board Meeting
Tuesday, March 26, 2019, 6:30 p.m.**

23480 Sumpter Rd., Belleville, MI 48111 Minutes
Meeting called to order by Supervisor Morgan at 6:30 pm. Roll call: Supervisor J. Morgan, Treasurer K. Bednark, Trustees: LaPorte, Rush, Oddy and Swinson. Excused absence: Clerk E. Hurst. Also showing present: Attorney Young, Deputy Clerk Hadyniak, Fire Chief Januszyk, Public Safety Director/ Chief of Police Luke, Finance Director Holtz and approximately 20 residents.

3. Agenda: Motion by Rush, supported by Oddy to approve the agenda.

4. Public Comments on Agenda Items Only: no comment

5. Minutes:

A. Motion by Oddy, supported by Rush to approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of March 12, 2019. Motion carried.

B. Motion by Bednark, supported by Rush to approve the Public Hearing Budget Meeting Minutes of March 12, 2019. Motion carried.

C. Motion by Oddy, supported by LaPorte to accept the Planning Commission Meeting Minutes of February 14, 2019. Motion carried.

D. Motion by Oddy, supported by Rush to accept the Park & Recreation Meeting Minutes of January 15, 2019. Motion carried.

E. Motion by Oddy, supported by LaPorte to accept the Park & Recreation Special Meeting Minutes of February 6, 2019. Motion carried.

6. Warrants: Motion by Bednark, supported by Rush to approve the warrant total of \$100,460.03 by removing payment for \$3,024.59 to Lomanic, Jr. Roll call vote: Yes: Swinson, Rush, Oddy, LaPorte, Bednark and J. Morgan. Nay: None. Excused absence: Clerk Hurst. Motion carried unanimously.

7. Parks & Recreation/Chamber Report-Swinson:
A. Strawberry Festival

B. Tri-County

C. Parks & Recreation Easter Egg Hunt on April 13th; rain date April 14th

D. Volunteer cleanup day at Banotai Park on April 27th and Graham Park on May 4th

Motion by Rush, supported by Bednark to approve the Parks & Recreation/Chamber report. Motion carried.

8. Planning/Zoning Report-Oddy:

A. Master Plan moved to Board for approval then 63 day review period.

Motion by LaPorte, supported by Rush to approve the Planning/Zoning report. Motion carried.

9. Senior Report-Hurst:

Motion by Rush, supported by Bednark to receive and file the senior report. Motion carried.

10. Board Response:

A. Trustee Rush updated the residents about Storm Ready and Sky Warning Program.

B. Trustee LaPorte mentioned to the public the Board of Trustees will be attending a National Incident Management System (NIMS) training session on May 11th at 9:00 am.

12. Unfinished Business:

A. Motion by Oddy, supported by Rush to approve the control panel disconnect for Willis/Sumpter Rd. sewer lift station repair, at a cost of \$23,415.00. Motion carried.

B. Motion by Oddy, supported by Swinson to approve the second reading and adopt the amended section 2.2: Definition of the Township Zoning Ordinance to add Yard Waste. Motion carried.

C. Motion by Rush, supported by Bednark to approve the second reading and adopt the amended Article 7: Environmental protection and design provisions of the Township Zoning Ordinance to add section 7.13: environment, drains, and public and private right-of-ways. Motion carried.

12. New Business:

A. Motion by Oddy, supported by Rush to adopt the Fiscal Year 2020 budget. Motion carried.

B. Motion by Rush, supported by Oddy to approve the Clerk to mail a draft of the Master Plan to neighboring communities and major utility companies for review. Motion carried.

C. Motion by Rush, supported by Bednark to approve the installation of a streetlight in the parking lot of Sumpter Township Police station by DTE for a cost of \$556.40. Motion carried.

D. Motion by Oddy, supported by Swinson to approve the amendment to MERS defined contribution plan to allow for additional employee contribution. Motion carried.

E. Motion by Oddy, supported by LaPorte to grant Collin Lynch a leave of absence until July 1, 2019, retroactive to March 1, 2019. Motion carried.

F. Motion by Rush, supported by Oddy to grant Laura Bratby a leave of absence until July 1, 2019, retroactive to March 1, 2019. Motion carried.

G. Motion by Rush, supported LaPorte to accept the recommendation from Parks & Recreation to move Krystal Tackett from alternate member to full time member. Motion carried.

H. Motion by Oddy, supported Bednark to accept the recommendation from Parks & Recreation to change the rental fee for the pavilions at Graham & Banotai Park from \$50.00 to \$100.00 starting immediately, due to rising maintenance cost. Motion carried.

I. Motion by Oddy, supported by LaPorte to approve the renewal the 2019-2020 Burnham & Flower insurance Participating Plan Package for Sumpter Township, effective April 1, 2019 at a cost of \$101,261.00. Motion carried.

13. Announcements:

A. Chief Luke announced Sumpter Township will not be participating in the statewide tornado drill.

14. Open Floor: Five (5) people spoke

15. Adjournment: Motion by Rush, supported by Bednark to adjourn at 7:43 pm. Motion carried.

Minutes prepared by

Dawn Hadyniak

Deputy Clerk, Sumpter Township

Esther Hurst, Clerk

John Morgan, Supervisor

Published: April 18, 2019

Van Buren Township Police Dispatch Log

Out of the 532 dispatch calls for service reported by Van Buren Township police for these past seven days, the following are selected for this column.

Sunday, April 7:
0056 – noise complaint, Freedom Way
0128 – property damage accident, E. I-94 ramp / Belleville Rd.
0142 – disorderly, Belleville Rd.
0206 – suspicious person/vehicle, Beverly Rd. / Edwards Rd.
0341 – domestic, N. I-94 Service Dr.
0454 – operating while intoxicated, Haggerty Rd. / N. I-94 Service Dr.
0521 – domestic, S. Bellridge Dr.
0711 – parking complaint, N. Cumberland Rd.
0801 – fight, N. I-94 Service Dr.
0807 – domestic, S. I-94 Service Dr.
0859 – suspicious person/vehicle, Village Center Dr.
0918 – fraud, Winding Pond Dr.
0933 – breaking & entering, S. I-94 Service Dr.
0954 – breaking 7 entering, Jackson St.
1113 – personal injury accident, Haggerty Rd. / Tyler Rd.
1134 – ordinance violation, Van Buren Ln.
1214 – larceny, Westlake Cir.
1232 – fraud, Denton Rd.
1455 – assist other dept., W. Wabash
1532 – suspicious person/vehicle, N. I-94 Service
1611 – property damage accident, Rawsonville Rd. / S. I-94 Service Dr.
1631 – private property impound, S. I-94 Service
1636 – animal complaint, Elwell Rd.
1859 – hospice deat6h, Spruce Ln.
2004 – family trouble, Westlake Cir.
2048 – mental subject, Belleville Rd.
2119 – suspicious person/vehicle, Bemis/tracks
2144 – neighbor trouble, S. Ponderosa Trl.
2209 – suspicious person/vehicle, Belleville Rd.

Monday, April 8:
0949 – larceny, Zachary St.
1023 – suspicious person/vehicle, Belleville Rd.
1024 – animal complaint, Scenic Dr.
1111 – suspicious person/vehicle, S. I-94 Service Dr. / Monterey Dr.
1128 – animal complaint, Haggerty Rd.
1222 – suspicious person/vehicle, Robson Rd.
1419 – private property impound, Belleville Rd.
1437 – lost property/child, S. Ponderosa Trl.
1553 – 911 welfare check, Tyler Rd.
1637 – fraud, Belleville Rd.
1852 – noise complaint, S. Bellridge Dr.
2241 – noise complaint, Denton Rd.

Tuesday, April 9:
0855 – domestic, Independence Ln.
1256 – harassment call, N. Ponderosa Trl.
1315 – ordinance violation, Bemis Rd.
1319 – ordinance violation, Martinsville Rd.
1415 – private property/property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1602 – property damage accident, Sumpter/Hull
1656 – suspicious person/vehicle, Denton/Ashbury
1811 – fraud, Tyler Rd.
1827 – juvenile complaint, S. Cumberland Dr.
1829 – threat, Fairfield Dr.
1835 – suspicious person/vehicle, Fairbanks St.
1907 – missing person, Quirk Rd.
2228 – animal complaint, Hull Rd.
2229 – suspicious person/vehicle, Parkwood Dr.

Wednesday, April 10:
0121 – suspicious person/vehicle, N. I-94 Service
0848 – animal complaint, Haggerty Rd./Savage
0932 – missing person, Chatsworth Dr.
1044 – suspicious person/vehicle, Van Born Rd. / power lines
1101 – animal complaint, Hannan Rd.
1311 – fraud, Van Buren St.
1326 – unauthorized driving away of auto, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1429 – fight, Castell/Ecorse
1457 – private property/property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1603 – sexual assault, St. Joe’s
1615 – missing person, Chatsworth Dr.
1758 – disorderly, S. Timberview Dr.
1808 – suspicious person/vehicle, Tyler/Belleville
1926 – suspicious person/vehicle, Elwell/Bemis
1936 – disorderly, Belleville Rd.
1945 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. /

Brookview Dr.
2020 – traffic offense, Beckley Rd./Denton Rd.
2347 – family trouble, Quirk Rd.

Thursday, April 11:
0219 – suspicious person/vehicle, Haggerty Rd. / Independence Ln.
0847 – larceny, Haggerty Rd.
0943 – 911 welfare check, Belleville Rd.
1158 – breaking & entering, Oak Ln.
1438 – private property impound, N. I-94 Service
1518 – fraud, Anna Dr.
1619 – malicious destruction of property, Pinewood Ln.
1726 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1900 – 911 welfare check, Western St.
2016 – larceny, Haggerty Rd. / N. I-94 Service Dr.
2027 – suspicious person/vehicle, Belleville Rd.
2107 – PPO violation, Belleville Rd.
2157 – suspicious person/vehicle, Maple Dr.

Friday, April 12:
0049 – suspicious person/vehicle, Belleville Rd.
0212 – fight, E. Schooner Dr.
0520 – property damage accident, Michigan Ave. / Denton Rd.
0736 – juvenile complaint, Vine St.
0806 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
0825 – ordinance violation, Truman Rd.
0858 – mental subject, Daisy Blvd.
1314 – disorderly, Rawsonville Rd.
1333 – ordinance violation, Beckley Rd. / S. I-94 Service Dr.
1343 – leaving the scene of a property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / S. I-94 Service Dr.
1432 – mental subject, Rose Blvd.
1455 – animal complaint, Belleville Rd.
1534 – mental subject, Briar Dr.
1535 – property damage accident, Robson Rd. / Belleville Rd.
1629 – animal complaint, Tyler Rd.
1647 – property damage accident, Rawsonville Rd.
1733 – family trouble, W. Adams
1841 – animal complaint, Lenmoore Ave.
1937 – private property impound, Van Born
1951 – noise complaint, Jackson St./Tyler Rd.
2040 – assist other dept., N. Ponderosa Trl.
2114 – suspicious person/vehicle, S. I-94 Service
2201 – suspicious person/vehicle, Rawsonville
2240 – disorderly, Parkwood
2237 – suspicious person/vehicle, Denton Rd.
2247 – larceny, Bemis Rd.
2310 – property damage accident, Tyler/Haggerty
2340 – suspicious person/vehicle, Morton Taylor Rd. / Ecorse Rd.

Saturday, April 13:
0007 – abandoned auto, Michigan Ave. / W. Schooner Dr.
0039 – threat, Colony Ln.
0410 – suspicious person/vehicle, Michigan Ave.
0655 – suspicious person/vehicle, Belleville Rd.
0848 – disorderly, Belleville Rd.
1239 – missing person, Quirk Rd.
1308 – disorderly, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1504 – unauthorized driving away of auto, Belleville Rd.
1639 – suspicious person/vehicle, Independence
1648 – suspicious person/vehicle, S. I-94 Service
1724 – road hazard, Hull Rd./Elwell Rd.
1726 – fraud, Belleville Rd.
1802 – suspicious person/vehicle, Cedar/Denton
2046 – found property/child, Tyler Rd.
2103 – suspicious person/vehicle, Westlake Cir.
2105 – suspicious person/vehicle, Park Estates Dr.
2117 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
2128 – property damage accident, Oak Blvd.
2221 – property damage accident, Westlake Cir.

Also on this week’s log are 228 traffic stops, 72 of which were on the I-94 and I-275 freeways.

Belleville Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, April 7:
0229 – parking complaint, Belle Villa Blvd.
0323 – assist fire dept., Main St.
1149 – assist fire dept., Charles St.
1304 – assist fire dept., N. Edgemont Ave.
1451 – domestic, W. Wabash Ave.
1513 – malicious destruction of property, E. Waterbury Ct.
1539 – civil matter, Harbour Pointe Dr.
1814 – 911 welfare check, N. Edgemont Ave.

2202 – noise complaint, Menlo Park Dr.

Monday, April 8:
0927 – mental subject, Main St.
1404 – assist fire dept., Henry St.
1606 – suicidal person, Belle Villa Blvd.
1756 – leaving the scene of a property damage accident, Main St./W. Columbia Ave.

Tuesday, April 9:
0550 – suicidal person, Belle Villa
1157 – assist fire dept., W. Columbia Ave.
1557 – property damage accident, N. Liberty St. / E. Huron River Dr.
1754 – assist fire dept., Victorian Ln.
1805 – family trouble, Belle Villa Blvd.
1958 – assist other dept., Belleville Rd.
2338 – warrant arrest, Canton PD

Wednesday, April 10:
0024 – warrant arrest, WCSO station
0705 – suspicious person/vehicle, Clarence St.
1131 – property damage accident, Potter Dr. / N. Edgemont Ave.
1357 – threat, W. Columbia Ave.
1512 – warrant arrest, Wash. Co. Jail

Thursday, April 11:
1506 – disorderly, W. Columbia Ave.
1624 – disorderly, Sumpter Rd.
1731 – assist fire dept., W. Columbia Ave.
1816 – warrant arrest, Washtenaw
1826 – assist fire dept., Brain St.
1842 – assist fire dept., W. Columbia Ave.
2258 – warrant arrest, Main St.
2342 – assist fire dept., Menlo Park Dr.

Friday, April 12:
0556 – assist fire dept., N. Edgemont Ave.
0929 – assist fire dept., Harbour Pointe Dr.
0958 – intrusion alarm, Sumpter Rd.
1315 – mental subject, W. Columbia Ave.
1454 – assist other dept., Belle Villa Blvd. / Sumpter Rd.
1538 – miscellaneous complaint, Belle Villa Blvd.
1618 – intrusion alarm, N. Aberdeen Ct.
1724 – leaving the scene of a property damage accident, W. Columbia Ave.
2126 – noise complaint, Sumpter Rd.

Saturday, April 13:
0000 – abandoned auto, E. Columbia Ave.
0624 – intrusion alarm, W. Davis St.
1220 – property damage accident, Main St. / N. Liberty St.
1349 – assist fire dept., Second St.
1408 – noise complaint, Astor
1453 – property damage accident, Main St.
1847 – property damage accident, South St.

Also on this week’s log are 31 traffic stops.

Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, April 7:
0007 – family trouble, 21000 bl. Haggerty Rd.
0325 – family trouble, 51000 bl. Willis Rd.
0912 – missing person, Birch Dr.
0938 – civil dispute, 21000 bl. Haggerty Rd.
1527 – 911 hang up, 25000 bl. Clark Rd.

Monday, April 8:
0139 – fire dept. assist, 20000 bl. Karr Rd.
0512 – property damage accident, Rustic Ln.
0931 – reckless driver, Sumpter/Bemis
1233 – animal complaint, Rawsonville/Willis
1825 – fire dept. assist, 21000 bl. Elwell Rd.
1834 – larceny, Country Club Blvd.

Tuesday, April 9:
0440 – well-being check, Clark/Wear
0642 – 911 hang up, 45000 bl. Clay Rd.
0819 – animal complaint, 43000 bl. Judd Rd.
1145 – warrant arrest pick up, 47000 bl. Wear Rd.
1217 – subpoena service, 46000 bl. Traskos
1244 – 911 hang up, 51000 bl. Arkona Rd.
1244 – alarm, 26000 bl. Elwell Rd.
1253 – fire dept. assist, 48000 bl. Wear Rd.
1652 – suspicious incident, 21000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1931 – fire dept. assist, Country Club Blvd.
1954 – fire dept. assist, Rustic Ln.

Wednesday, April 10:
0718 – alarm, 21000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
1331 – suspicious incident, 43000 bl. Wear Rd.
1406 – fire dept. assist, 47000 bl. Willow Rd.
1753 – fraud complaint, 45000 bl. Willis Rd.
1844 – ORV complaint, 25000 bl. Elwell Rd.
2044 – assist other agency, 10000 bl. Rawsonville
2154 – fire dept. assist, E. Arizona

Thursday, April 11:
0536 – fire dept. assist, 26000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
1201 – suspicious incident, 24000 bl. Carleton West Rd.
1500 – mental health commitment, 43000 bl. Bemis Rd.
1627 – subpoena service, 46000 bl. Traskos
1732 – fire dept. assist, 17000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
1740 – property damage accident, Rawsonville / Judd
2046 – fire dept. assist, 47000 bl. Willow Rd.
2111 – fire dept. assist, Rustic Ln.

Friday, April 12:
0836 – larceny, 8200 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
0848 – alarm, 23000 bl. Carleton West Rd.
1212 – fraud complaint, Brookview Dr.
1327 – assist other agency, 23000 bl. Martinsville
1630 – fire dept. assist, 42000 bl. Judd Rd.
1700 – civil dispute, Wayside Dr.
1850 – warrant arrest pick up, Greenmeadow
2022 – down wires, 49000 bl. Willis Rd.

Saturday, April 13:
0243 – suspicious incident, 41000 bl. Willow Rd.
0436 – disorderly person, 42000 bl. Willow Rd.
1736 – shots fired, 51000 bl. Arkona Rd.
2322 – property damage accident, Rawsonville / Rustic Ln.

Also on this week’s log are four follow-up investigations, 18 miscellaneous details, 53 patrol checks, and 50 traffic stops.

Saturday morning fire destroys grow house in Van Buren Township

What fire fighters believe to be a grow house on Maple Street in Van Buren Estates mobile home park burned Saturday morning.

It was a complete loss, said Van Buren Township Fire Chief Amy Brow. She said no one was in the mobile home at the time of the fire.

Sumpter Township Fire Department provided mutual aid to VBT fire fighters by bringing water in a tanker, since there are no fire hydrants in the mobile home park.

BHS at-home games

- Thursday, April 18: Boys Varsity Golf vs Garden City HS at Willow Metropark Golf Course 2:30 p.m.; Girls JV Soccer vs Wayne Memorial HS, 5:30 p.m.; Girls Varsity Soccer vs Wayne Memorial HS, 7 p.m.
- Friday, April 19: JV Baseball vs Canton HS, noon; JV Softball vs Canton HS, noon
- Saturday, April 20: Tiger Track Relays, 9 a.m.
- Monday, April 22: JV Baseball & JV Softball vs Dearborn, 4 p.m.
- Tuesday, April 23: Girls Varsity Tennis vs John Glenn, 4 p.m.
- Wednesday, April 24: Varsity Baseball & Varsity Softball vs Dearborn, 4 p.m.; Boys JV Lacrosse vs Novi HS, 5:30 p.m.; Boys Varsity Lacrosse vs Novi HS, 7 p.m.

Diane Kiessel

Belleville High School Athletic Secretary

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School Board

(continued from page 8)

The complete agreement is detailed in the March 28 issue of the *Independent*;

- Approved BHS Marching Band camp for 300 students grades 9-12 for Aug. 19-23 at Tamarack Camps in Ortonville. Cost to student is \$240-\$270;

- Approved a trip to Cedar Point in Sandusky, Ohio, on June 8 for from 50 to 80 eighth-grade McBride Middle School students for the school's annual Family Fun Day. Cost is \$55 for each student for tickets and transportation;

- Honored Angela Scroggie and Ryan Franks as winners of the Human Resource office's second-annual Wellness Challenge, with Scroggie losing 16.3% body fat and Franks losing 15.8%. The challenge ran from Jan. 14 to March 25 and each of 63 participants paid \$20 to enter. The winners each earned \$615 and other gifts from local businesses;

- Approved hiring Amanda Smith as a paraprofessional at Edgemont Elementary as of April 8;

- Heard Marina Gerick, a student working on a Girl Scout project called Benches for Belleville, give an update on the project. She said she has 2,047 pounds of plastic bottle caps ready to go and they will be picking up the first five benches on May 20. Two benches will be put at the Fallen Tiger Wall. They are orange and black and the cost to turn the bottle caps into benches is being paid by Waste Management. She said

they also will pick up one bench each for Van Buren, Sumpter, and Belleville which will be blue. Those benches have been paid for by Girl Scout Troop 20414. She thanked all who have donated and who have helped sort the donated caps. Her mother, school board member Darlene Loyer Gerick, said they still have many caps to sort and, "I may need a second garage."

Sumpter Twp.

(continued from page 17)

report that the Nationwide pension problem is still a bit challenging and Nationwide is not returning emails and calls. He said there is a tentative conference call scheduled for the next day with its attorney. He also said Ray Parker of Hennessey Engineers is ready to go out for proposals not to exceed \$300,000 to fix up the hexagon building across the road to turn it into a media center. Now that the work has been turned over to Sumpter Township, it will be "a lot cheaper than the district library" proposals. He said now the district library can focus on its big library building in Belleville. He also reported on the meetings scheduled to work out details of the funding problem between 34th District Court municipalities and City of Romulus; and

- Approved a full-time office assistant position within the clerk's office. The hiring committee will consist of Michelle Bellingham, Chief Luke, Ken Kunka, and Clerk Hurst.

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